

# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

July 11, 2007

## Contact Person

Robert A. Anderson  
Assistant U.S. Attorney

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Damien D. Wagner, 27, Portage, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 57 months in prison for unlawfully manufacturing a destructive device - a pipe bomb - in Portage, Wisconsin, during September 2006.

During sentencing, Judge Shabaz noted that Wagner's history reflected a dangerous preoccupation with fire and explosives since a young age. Shabaz considered Wagner's background and the unlawful manufacture of the destructive device to present a likelihood of putting others in the community at risk.

In September 2006, the Portage Police Department contacted the Dane County Bomb Squad and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives after recovering a large carbon dioxide canister filled with black powder and a fuse, as a result of a tip from a citizen who was aware of Wagner's manufacture and detonation of earlier devices. No significant damage or harm to any person had been caused by the devices previously detonated. Wagner pleaded guilty to the unlawful manufacture of a destructive device on April 30, 2007.

The charge against Wagner is the result of an investigation conducted by the Portage Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the Dane County Bomb Squad. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Anderson.

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